

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

In the specification, paragraphs [0020] and [0022] have been amended to insert the application serial numbers of the referenced co-pending applications.

Claim 2 has been canceled; claims 1 and 4 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of canceled claim 2; and claims 5-8 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-8 are submitted for reconsideration.

Claims 1, 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Kelly (USP 5,819,340). Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Massie (USP 3,631,547) or Hayward (USP 2,752,614). Applicants request withdrawal of these rejections for at least the following reason.

Claims 1 and 4, as amended, each define a bassinet and changing table assembly that includes “a safety strap attached to the changing table.” None of Kelly, Massie, or Hayward teach or suggest such a safety strap. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3, and 4 are not anticipated under 35 USC 102(b) by Kelly, Massie, or Hayward.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Massie or Hayward in view of Vuong et al. (USP Des. 319,931). Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reason.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1. Claim 1 is patentable over Massie and Hayward for the above-stated reason. Vuong et al. does not cure the deficiencies of Massie and Hayward. For example, Vuong et al. does not teach or suggest a safety strap attached to a changing table. Thus, claim 1 and, hence, its dependent claim 3 are patentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Massie or Hayward in view of Vuong et al.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kelly, Massie, or Hayward in view of De Puy (USP 2,846,700). Applicants have canceled claim 2; thus, this

rejection is moot. However, since the subject matter of canceled claim 2 has been added to claims 1 and 4, Applicants offer the following remarks in connection with claims 1 and 4.

As mentioned above, claims 1 and 4, as amended, each define a bassinet and changing table assembly that includes “a safety strap attached to the changing table.” None of Kelly, Massie, or Hayward teach or suggest such a safety strap. Moreover, there would be no motivation to attach a safety strap, such as the strap 4, 6 of De Puy, to the surfaces under the bassinets of Kelly, Massie, or Hayward (i.e., surfaces 14, 19, and 20 respectively) because those surfaces are not designed as baby changing surfaces. Page 2 of the Office Action asserts that shelf 14 of Kelly “inherently acts as a changing table;” Applicants respectfully disagree. As explained in column 2, lines 66-67, of Kelly, mattress retainer/bassinet 16 is normally supported in crib 10 by shelf 14. Thus, shelf 14 provides a support function for the mattress retainer/bassinet 16, and nothing more. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 4 are patentable over Kelly, Massie, or Hayward in view of De Puy.

Applicants have added dependent claims 5-8 to the application. Applicants submit that these claims are patentable over the applied references for at least the same reasons as claim 1, from which claims 5-8 depend.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 CFR 1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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